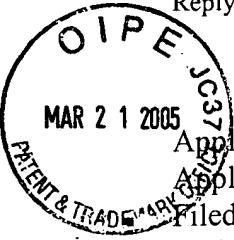


Appl. No. 09/688,375  
Amtd. Dated 03/16/2005  
Reply to Final Office Action of December 16, 2004



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application. No. : 09/688,375 Confirmation No. 5871  
Applicant : Brant L. Candelore  
Filed : 10/10/2000  
TC/A.U. : 2131  
Examiner : Taghi T. Arani  
  
Docket No. : 080398.P323  
Customer No. : 8791

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

### PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action of December 16, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.